

Week 3 – Good News For My City

Ice Breaker

Share a moment when you faced a challenging situation or felt like an outsider, and someone unexpectedly came alongside you with support or good news. How did that experience impact your perception of community and the power of unexpected kindness?

Discussion Questions

1. **God's Choice of Messengers:** In the story of 2 Kings 7:9, God uses four men with leprosy, individuals considered outcasts, to deliver the good news. Why do you think God often chooses those who are seen as broken or outcast to play significant roles in His plans? Explore how this challenges societal norms and our preconceptions about who can be messengers of God's goodness. (2 Kings 7:3-20)
2. **Excuses and Disqualification:** The lepers in the story had reasons to keep the good news to themselves – they were unclean and had been rejected by society. What excuses or feelings of disqualification have you experienced in sharing the good news with others? How can we overcome these barriers, especially when God calls us to be messengers of hope? (2 Kings 7:4, 9)
3. **Community Rivalries:** The sermon touched on the idea of exclusive communities and rivalries, even within a church. Reflect on a time when you experienced rivalry or exclusivity, and how it impacted your perspective on community. How can we actively work towards inclusive communities, both within and outside the church? (Romans 10:9-13)
4. **Gatekeepers and Doubt:** Read 2 Kings 7:17-19. The king's officer doubted the good news, questioning whether it could be true. Discuss a time when doubt or skepticism hindered your ability to accept or share good news. How can we overcome doubt, both in ourselves and in others, when it comes to the transformative power of the gospel?

Key Takeaway or Action Item:

Identify one person or group in your community who might be considered "outcast" or overlooked. Plan a simple act of kindness or inclusion to demonstrate God's love and break down barriers. Share your experiences and reflections at the next LifeGroup meeting.